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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA RICHMOND DIVISION

IN RE:) IN PROCEEDINGS) UNDER CHAPTER 11
CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC. et al.,) CASE No. 08-35653
Debtors.)
WILLIAM R. GOWER,)))
Movant,))
v.)
CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC. et al.)
Respondents.	

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY

NOW COMES William R. Gower, ("Creditor"), by counsel, and for his Motion for Relief from Automatic Stay imposed under 11 U.S.C. §362, states as follows:

- 1. The Court has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157, 1334(b) and 11 U.S.C. § 362(d).
 - 2. This is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).
- 3. On December 13, 2007, Creditor filed a claim with the Illinois Workers'
 Compensation Commission against Circuit City Stores, Inc. ("Debtor") for injuries he sustained in a

work-related accident on August 30, 2007. The suit seeks damages in the approximate sum of Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$37,000.00).

- 4. On November 10, 2008, Debtor filed a voluntary petition for relief under Chapter11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code.
- 5. At the time of Creditor's accident, the Debtor was insured Old Republic Insurance Company with limits that would satisfy any judgment or settlement in the Workers' Compensation action, either in full or in part.
- 6. Regardless of whether the Debtor was insured or self-insured, good cause exists to modify and/or terminate the stay to allow the Creditor to proceed with the pending action described above and to allow Creditor to establish his rights, if any, to the proceeds of a Workers' Compensation insurance policy or other insurance policies, if any. As stated by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio in In re Federated Dept. Stores, 1990 Bankr. LEXIS 493 *7-8 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio 1990):

In the case of the self-insurance programs, cause exists because continuation of the programs will conserve estate assets and avoid the more costly alternative of workers' compensation insurance. In the case of claims covered by insurance, cause exists because no post-petition funds will be used to pay these pre-petition workers' compensation claims. ... Liquidation of the pre-petition workers' compensation claims in forums such as state agencies specifically created to address workers' compensation issues, rather than in the Bankruptcy Court through the claims objections process, will likely speed resolution of these claims. Accordingly, modification of the stay as requested herein is in the best interest of Debtors and their estates.

Additionally, and among other reasons, good cause exists because the Debtor is now in a liquidating chapter 11 case and it will likely not receive a discharge.

7. Conversely, the Debtor will not suffer any substantial injury or prejudice by

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allowing the Creditor to continue with the liquidation of his worker's compensation claim, as any judgment or settlement arising therefrom is not limited to an unsecured claim and the cost, time and involvement of defending the worker's compensation claim is minimal as it is ripe for arbitration and was set for arbitration when these chapter 11 cases were filed.

WHEREFORE, the Creditor, William R. Gower, respectfully prays that this honorable Court enter an Order substantially in the form of the proposed order attached as Exhibit A granting him relief from the automatic stay provisions of 11 U.S.C. § 362 so as to permit the Creditor to proceed with the Workers' Compensation action to judgment, including appeals if necessary.

Date: March 17, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ W. Joel Charboneau

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Winters, Brewster, Crosby and Schafer LLC

/s/ Linda J. Brame

Linda J. Brame P.O. Box 700 Marion, IL 62959

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NOTICE OF MOTION AND HEARING

Your rights may be affected. You should read these papers carefully and discuss them with your attorney, if you have one in this bankruptcy case. (If you do not have an attorney, you may wish to consult one.)

If you do not wish the Court to grant the relief sought in this motion, or if you want the Court to consider your views on the motion, then within fifteen (15) days from the date of service of this motion, you must file a written response explaining your position with the Court at the following address: Clerk of Court, United States Bankruptcy Court, 701 East Broad Street, Suite 4000, Richmond, VA 23219, and serve a copy on the movant's attorney at the address shown above. Unless a written response is filed and served within this fifteen day period, the Court may deem opposition waived, treat the motion as conceded, and issue an order granting the requested relief.

If you mail your response to the Court for filing, you must mail it early enough so that the Court will receive in on or before the expiration of the fifteen day period.

Attend the preliminary hearing scheduled to be held on: APRIL 14, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.; in Courtroom 5000, United States Bankruptcy Court, 701 East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

If you or your attorney do not take these steps, the Court may decide that you do not oppose the relief sought in the motion and may enter an order granting that relief.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on March 17, 2009, I served copies of the foregoing by electronic mail on the entities comprising the Primary Service List (as defined in Exhibit A to the Order dated November 12, 2008, governing notice procedures).

By: /s/ W. Joel Charboneau

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EXHIBIT A

Linda J. Brame P.O. Box 700 Marion, IL 62959 Phone: (618) 997-5611 Fax: (618) 997-6522

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Debtors.)
WILLIAM R. GOWER,))
Movant,))
v.)
CIRCUIT CITY STORES, INC. et al.))
Respondents.	

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY

At Richmond, in this district, this ___ day of _____, 2009.

The matter before the Court is the motion for relief from the stay (the "Motion") filed on behalf of William R. Gower ("Creditor"), by counsel. Having reviewed the Motion, the Court finds that: (i) jurisdiction and venue are proper; (ii) this is a core proceeding; (iii) good cause, as set forth in the Motion exists to grant the Motion; and (iv) no party in interest objected to the requested relief. For good cause shown, it is

ORDERED

that the Motion shall be and is GRANTED and the stay shall be modified to permit the Creditor to proceed with the his workers' compensation action to judgment, including appeals if necessary.

The Clerk is directed to send electronic notification of the entry of this Order to counsel for the parties and no further service shall be necessary.

ENTER:

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

WE ASK FOR THIS:

William R. Gower

/s/ W. Joel Charboneau

W. Joel Charboenau, Esq. (VSB #68025) Magee, Foster, Goldstein & Sayers, P.C. P.O. Box 404 Roanoke, VA 24003-0404 (540) 343-9800

Winters, Brewster, Crosby and Schafer LLC

/s/ Linda J. Brame

Linda J. Brame P.O. Box 700

Marion, IL 62959

Phone: (618) 997-5611 Fax: (618) 997-6522 brame@winterslaw.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that copies of the proposed order were served via electronic delivery and/or first class mail the 17th day of March, 2009, on all necessary parties pursuant to the Order establishing notice procedures in this case.

/s/ W. Joel Charboneau

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Serve:

All parties that have filed notices of appearance in this case by electronic mail.

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